

ELDERLY COMMISSION MEETING

SPECIAL MEETING: May 19, 2008 at 5:00pm

East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2008:

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:10pm, by Claire Badstubner, Chairman.
- II. Attendance:
 - Present Members: Elizabeth Burns (Municipal Agent), Claire Badstubner (Chairman), Catherine Drouin (Co-Chairman), Deb Donovan, Madeleine Thompson
 - Absent Member: Trevor Bray
 - Guest: Dale Nelson, Board of Selectman

- III. Previous Minutes:
 - Regular Meeting 4/28/08:
 - MOTION** made by Ms. Donovan to accept minutes of the above regular meeting, as presented. **SECONDED** by Ms. Drouin. **ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

- IV. Cell Phones for Seniors:
 - Ms. Donovan brought in thirteen (13) cell phones all with adapters. Verizon has programmed all the phones with 911 access by (1) powering up the phone and (2) pressing #1. Verizon will continue to prep any phones that are brought in to them.

Members discussed distribution of these cell phones. Possibly do presentations at senior center. Ms. Burns suggested that the commission may want to consider a program similar to Coventry's: a safety workshop for seniors held a couple of times a year. Workshop would include police and fire personnel to talk to the seniors and possibly also invite the cell phone company representative. Phones could be distributed and seniors would be instructed on how and when to use the phones.

Ms. Drouin will contact Laura Clynch at the Senior Center to set up a date in September as a "kick-off workshop". Once a date is established, then commission will contact Fire and Police to invite them to participate. Members briefly discussed advertising regarding the workshop. Ms. Burns will prepare a press release for the June meeting.

Ms. Donovan questioned how to get cell phone information out to the "shut-ins". Ms. Burns suggested: (1) that those individuals use Dial-A-Ride to come to the workshop, (2) have a commission member do a home visit or (3) utilize the Meals-On-Wheels to help distribute the cell phone information. Ms. Burns also suggested having the workshop taped for airing on Cox Cable.

Ms. Burns spoke to a woman who will prepare an estimate on making lanyards for the cell phones. Ms. Burns also presented the S&S Recreation catalog with items that may also be used to help seniors carry the phones on themselves.

Ms. Burns took the cell phones back to her office to have a volunteer label the phones/adapters and to create a phone log. As the phones are distributed, each phone's "number" will be logged into the book with the individual's name/info.

Each member is to think about a title for the safety workshop. Ideas will be discussed at the June meeting.

V. Seniors/Active Adult Survey:

Community Day results: approximately 27 people were surveyed from age 45+. There were fewer seniors at the event than expected. The survey was well received and sparked interest.

Ms. Drouin will be attending a Rotary meeting in September and plans on discussing the survey at that meeting.

Commission is moving the Survey (Leader) Training dates to June/July (at Town Hall Annex). Ms. Burns to check the following dates for availability: Wednesday June 11 & 18, Thursday June 12 & 19. The third training date will be in July (date TBD) and possibly held at the Senior Center. Ms. Burns will also check with the Senior Center to see if a June training can be held there as well. Training will take approximately one hour. Members decided on the following times: 12:30pm-1:30pm and 7:00pm- 8:00pm.

Ms. Donovan reviewed with the commission members what a "leader" will do. Both Ms. Donovan and Ms. Drouin will contact all the names they have to confirm that they will be coming to a training session. Contact information will be Ms. Donovan's email address and phone number.

Members agreed that a goal for survey completion will be October 27, 2008 (Elderly Commission's October meeting). At this time, surveys will be compiled and information will be assessed.

VI. Miscellaneous Business:

- a) Ms. Burns handed out the "Let's Talk" flyer for June 11, 2008. The discussion will be "Community and Parental Involvement in the High School".
- b) Ms. Burns handed out a booklet from the state: "CT Community on Aging: A Profile of CT's Local Programs". This booklet lists all towns with a summary of their individual tax relief programs.
- c) ITN is establishing their office in East Windsor and will officially be starting up in July, as of this point. Ms. Burns gave a review of the legislative issues as related to this program. The issue that did not pass is that the volunteer drivers' insurance rate may increase with their involvement in such a program. Ms. Burns also informed the group that Liberty Mutual has agreed to be a nationwide sponsor of ITN. Liberty Mutual has agreed to \$250K/year for three years to ITN projects. They will also advertise the ITN program.

VII. Adjournment:

MOTION made by Ms. Drouin to adjourn meeting at 6:10pm. **SECONDED BY** Ms. Donovan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Pellegrini